

5/11/21 St. Nicholas Parish Council Meeting- via Zoom

Present: Fr. John, Fr. David Lowell, Deacon Igor, Jan Bear, Janet Frazier, Charles Iragui, Amy Lines, Jennifer McDonald, and Tim Moore. Absent Bobby Borisov. (MSA- moved, seconded, approved)

1. Meeting was opened with prayer.
2. Minutes of the April meeting were reviewed and approved.
3. Rector's report- Fr. David Lowell has been 'assigned' to our parish. He will be attending council meetings.

- Covid- Fr. John mentioned that once 70% vaccination goal for adults is reached in Oregon, we can remove some restrictions. At an earlier date, once 65% of adults have at least one shot, churches can go to 65% of capacity- but it isn't clear if we still need the 6 foot distance, which will limit much increase in our temple. We had many services for Pascha, including a group outside for the midnight liturgy under canopies and with an outside sound system.

- We had one funeral and one Chrismation.

- Water heaters are installed, including earthquake shut-off valves. Mold was found behind a shelf in the room w/ the water heater, though it was not likely related to the heater, but that will be investigated- more likely it is related to an air vent or water leakage from outside.

- Fr. John wants to establish two committees to deal with certain issues- to help avoid long discussions in council. These would be building maintenance and yard/landscape maintenance.

- Beverage table in basement of hall needs refurbishing- and Fr. sent out an email about this- asking for someone to volunteer.

- Tracey has requested a visit w/ Fr. John and Jan Bear to discuss the present status and future of the choir.

4. Treasurer's report-Finances. Checking \$17,125 (operations money). Savings \$ 20,772, which includes funds for: Building (\$17,186), Icons (\$2,769), Kliros (\$1,131), St. Elizabeth (\$1,158), & Lenten Covid-19 (\$1,340). There are two funds for the recent Lenten charity- Gobezie Goshu home- \$2,497.50 and Portland Rescue Mission-\$2,472.50. (Since beginning of May, the Gobezie fund went up to \$10,000 and the Portland Rescue Mission was closer to\$2,900. There were specific donations directed to the Gobezie home, though originally the plan was to divide donations equally.) These are to be matched by St. Martin fund, up to \$5,000 to Gobezie and \$3,000 to Portland Rescue Mission. Money market \$61,074 (Also for operations: kept segregated, though usable, w/ \$20,000 of that intended for the years 2022 and 2023.). St. Martin's Fund \$118,554.

- For April- contributions were \$14,834 and expenses were \$14,068.

- Year-to-date (Jan-April): Income vs Budget +~\$15,100. Actual income is ahead of budget and expenses are below what was budgeted.

5. Janet and Matushka Elaine wish to start having outside coffee hour on June 6. This will be downstairs outside the Hall. They will work on protocols to maintain safety. This will draw people away from the front door of the church. Deacon Igor notes that the virtual coffee hour has lost attendance recently, so he proposes stopping it now.
6. Amy brought up the issue of live-streaming liturgy. She is concerned about privacy issues if people are shown taking communion, especially since the live-streams have been kept available long-term. Earlier we had moved the camera, so it didn't show communicants, but it became difficult to move the camera several times during the service. It was suggested that the camera be turned to focus on an icon during communion. Consensus to move the angle of the camera during communion.
7. Strategic planning issue. Fr. David has worked on several strategic planning committees and notes that coming out of Covid is a great time to do this. He has 5 suggestions about this: 1. Council start with gathering information- with missions/job-descriptions of each committee. This will include more things than are on the website, eg newer committees as suggested in Fr. John's report above. Send that out to the parish in hopes for getting volunteers for these committees. 2. Include the prequel of what we have already accomplished since Fr. George retired. 3. Announce the planning strategy to the full parish at the semi-annual meeting, inviting people to participate.

4. Create a cash flow chart for the past 3 years, this year, and projections for the next 3 years.
5. Appoint a sub-committee from the parish council (and the parish) to collate the information.
6. Ultimately the council will make the strategic plan. (This could be done at a council retreat.)
7. This is presented to the parish at the annual meeting.
8. Electronically maintaining records. Jan Bear has questions about what needs to be accomplished. She will start with minutes from the last several years.
9. Windows- The four high windows cannot be repaired, but would need to be replaced. They are awning windows – cost \$7200 plus installation. The conversation of this had to do with Covid-trying to make air movement better. Charles was also discussing that he is to be looking into air-filtration systems. We decided to defer the windows for now, but the people who volunteered to donate money will be told the cost as above for their consideration.
9. Next meeting- Monday, June 7, 6:30 pm.
10. Meeting ended with prayer.

Signed: Jennifer McDonald, Secretary